

INSIGHT

Integrated Network of Scientific Information & GeoHydrologic Tools

WHAT IS IT?

A repository of water-related data used in the annual analysis of water basins across Nebraska. INSIGHT, an Integrated Network of Scientific Information and GeoHydrologic Tools, will provide a wide array of information on water supplies and water uses throughout Nebraska. The final INSIGHT product will be a compilation of data on water supply and use, streamgaging data, as well as information from groundwater modeling and other analyses, presented in a series of web-based, interactive maps. The information will be organized geographically by surface water basin so that citizens in each basin can easily find information for their area. The figure below shows a prototype of what the INSIGHT web interface may look like once it is completed.

WHY IS IT BEING DONE?

To assist Nebraska managers, policy-makers, and public with water management decisions. Water is critically important to the economic, social, and environmental well-being of Nebraska. Over the last century, the state has faced a variety of challenges in meeting the competing demands on its water resources. As reflected in the extreme weather patterns that have occurred in the state over just the past two years, many of these challenges are caused by either an excess of water such as flooding or by water shortages during droughts. Nebraska irrigates more farmland acres than any other state but there are many other interests at stake for the water. For example,

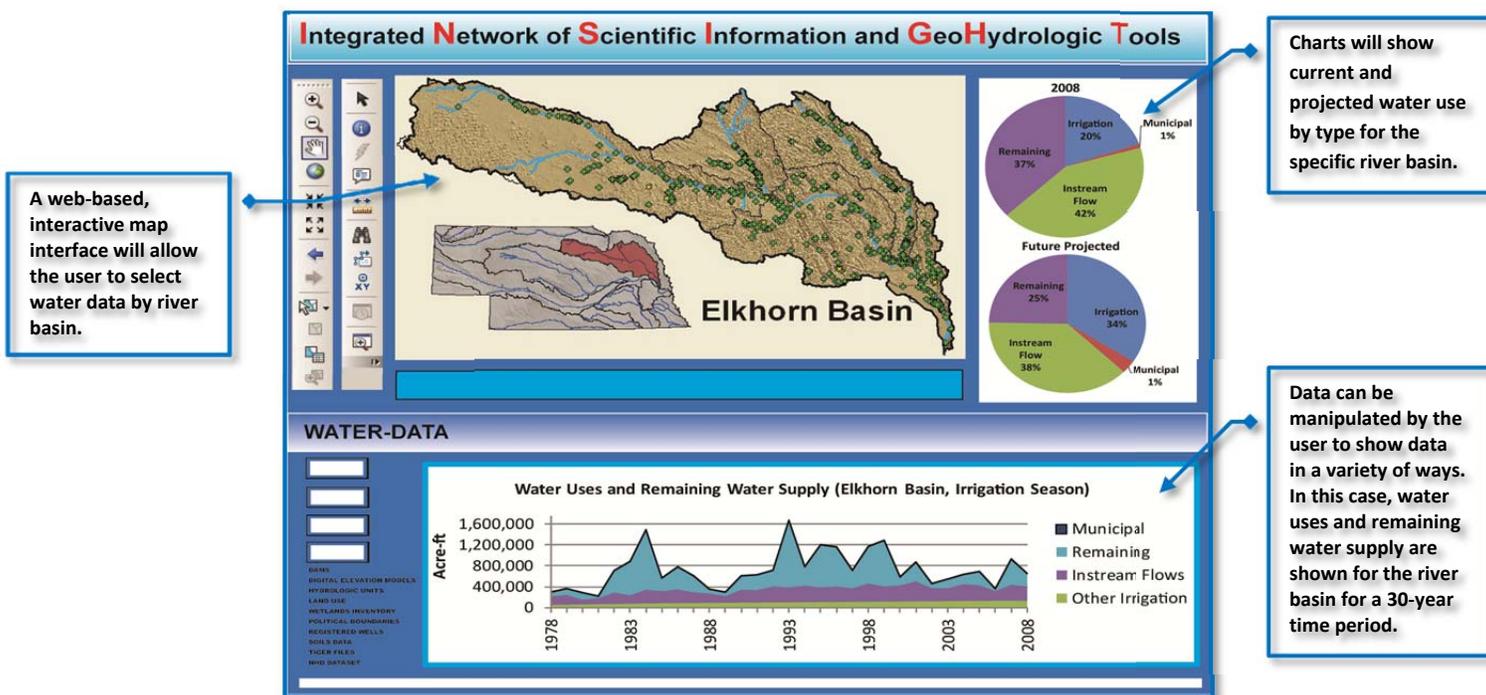
municipalities are demanding more water to serve growing populations and states are obligated to meet the water allocation requirements of interstate compacts and other agreements. To ensure that the needs of these many and diverse water users are being met, water managers are tasked with the challenges of first trying to understand the supply of water and all of the demands on it and then trying to appropriately manage natural systems – accounting for unpredictability in weather patterns and other factors. INSIGHT will help streamline the process for planning and managing water resources by synthesizing various elements of hydrologic data into a seamless package for each basin. Through this synthesis of key hydrologic data, data managers will be able to more efficiently identify potential outcomes of implementing various management strategies.

WHO IS DOING IT?

The Nebraska Department of Natural Resources is developing INSIGHT. With contractor assistance, the Department of Natural Resources is currently developing data input and storage systems, assessing groundwater modeling capabilities, developing groundwater models, and developing the web interface that will serve as the public face of INSIGHT.

WHEN WILL IT BE AVAILABLE?

The planned release of INSIGHT is **July 2013** and it will be available on the Department of Natural Resources' website.



To learn more about INSIGHT, contact Nathan Morris, Department of Natural Resources Integrated Water Management Planner at (402) 471-0631 or at nathan.morris@nebraska.gov. To learn more about Integrated Water Management activities at the Nebraska Department of Natural Resources, please visit <http://dnr.ne.gov/iwm/>.